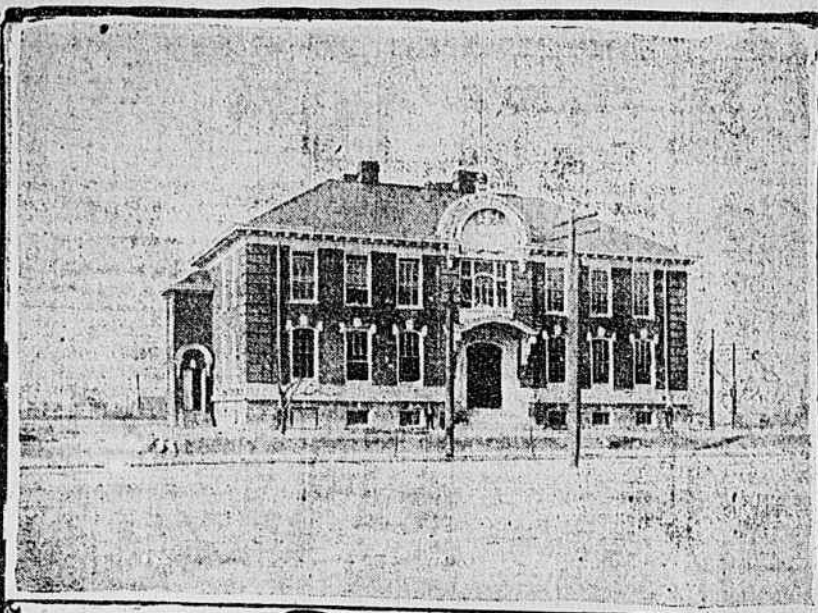
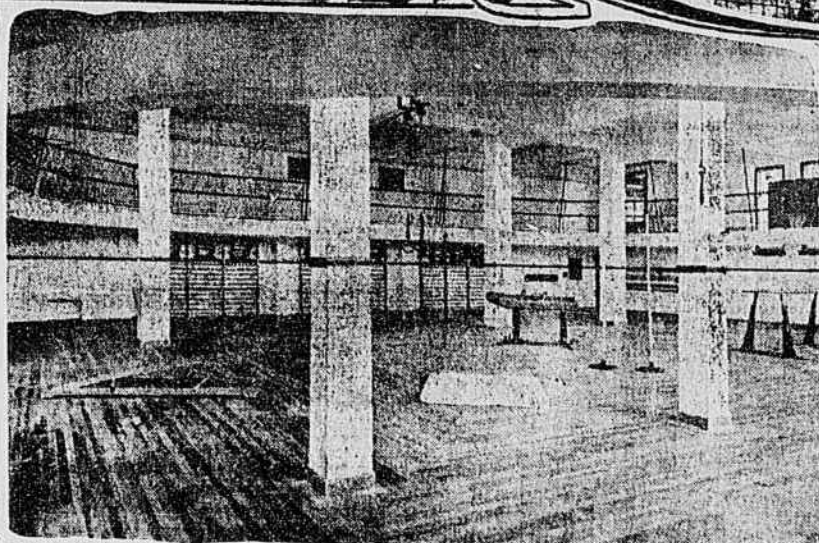
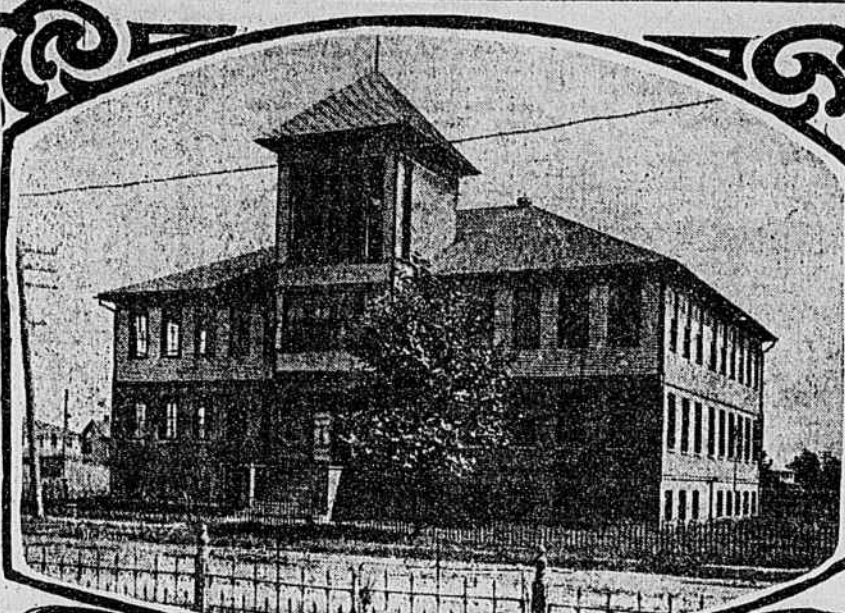


What Norfolk Is Accomplishing in Its Public School System



ATLANTIC CITY SCHOOL NO. 2.



GYMNASIUM MATTHEW FONTAINE MAURY HIGH SCHOOL.

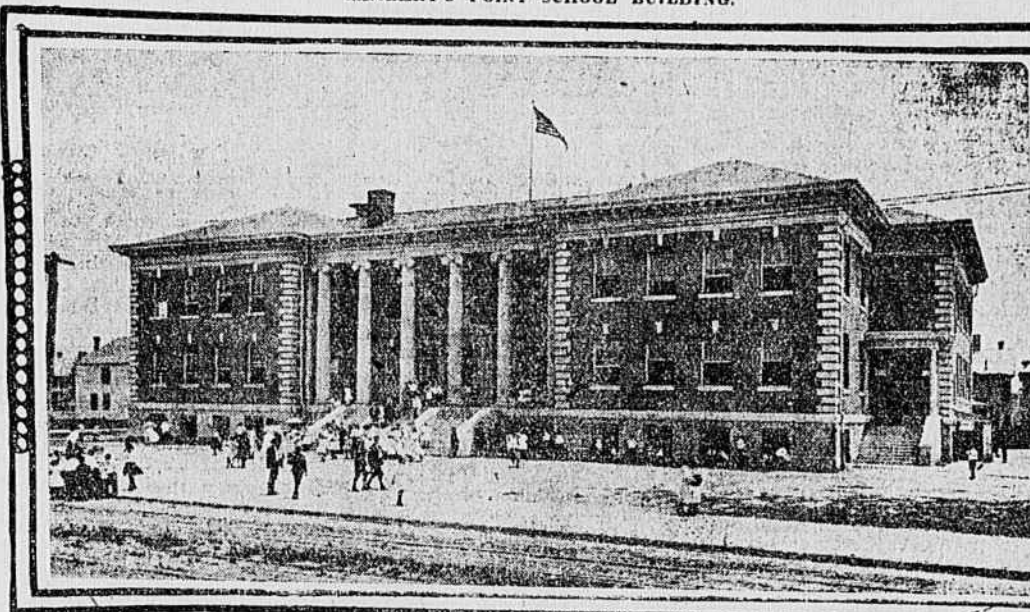


DOUTH STREET SCHOOL.



MATTHEW FONTAINE MAURY HIGH SCHOOL.

LANBERT'S POINT SCHOOL BUILDING.



OMOHUNDRO AVENUE SCHOOL.

NORFOLK, VA., November 4.—Norfolk's public schools are the pride of her people, especially the new Matthew Fontaine Maury High School, which is established this year in its \$300,000 building. With school property valued at over a million dollars and an enrollment of 10,200 pupils compared with an enrollment of 2,702 fifteen years ago the educational facilities here show an advancement rivaled only by few cities the size of Norfolk.

When asked a statement showing the development and growth of the public schools here, Superintendent R. A. Dobie wrote the following resume for The Times-Dispatch:

The wonderful growth, development and improvement in the public school system of Norfolk have been phenomenal along all lines. Just a word about our schools: Norfolk's educational facilities will compare favorably with those of any other city of its size in the South. They rank with the best in Virginia, and in point of progress and development they take the lead.

Rapid Advance.
Probably no public school system in the country has advanced more rapidly than Norfolk during the last decade.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Public school buildings fifteen years ago..... | 9 |
| Public school buildings to-day..... | 32 |
| Number of pupils in schools fifteen years ago..... | 2,702 |
| Number to-day..... | 10,200 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Value school property fifteen years ago..... | \$ 50,000 |
| Value school property to-day..... | 1,050,000 |
| Amount appropriated fifteen years ago by the city..... | 25,000 |
| Amount appropriated to-day by the city..... | 185,000 |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Per cent. in enrollment fifteen years ago as to population..... | 20 per cent. |
| Per cent. in enrollment to-day..... | 88 per cent. |

It is doubtful whether any locality in this country has shown a larger percentage of growth and development in public schools than Atlantic City ward of this city.

Twenty years ago the public school work of the ward was conducted by two teachers in two rented rooms, with eighty pupils. To-day there are.....

Curriculum Broadened.
Not only has there been growth and improvement in buildings, equipment and numbers, but the curriculum has been broadened, arranged and planned on the best and most improved methods. Our course of study has been most favorably commended by distinguished educators not only in Virginia, but throughout the country, and requests for copies are constantly coming to this office from all sections of the United States, and recently from Cuba and the Philippine Islands. Our watchword is "thoroughness."

In my opinion, at no time in the history of the world has so much been done for the physical and mental care of the child as we see to-day, and very wisely so. Especially is this true in regard to the efforts that are being made and the large amount of money that is being spent for their physical care, in the way of playgrounds, athletic associations, gymnasiums, physical culture and medical instruction.

spections; and with trained nurses to visit the homes of the children needing attention and impress parents with the necessity of prompt action in response to the advice of the medical inspectors, in order that any defects may be remedied and pupils may return to school in good health—that they may be in physical condition to prosecute their studies successfully. This is only fair to the child, and while this general movement is of only recent date, it has come to stay. I am glad to say most satisfactory results have followed the medical inspection in our schools. Introduced last session, under the care of four inspectors, which has been increased to five for next session, with three trained nurses. The physical condition of the children is a matter of the greatest importance, not only to the teacher who is to instruct them, but to the community. It is only recently that the true relation of medical science and the problems of the school have come under serious discussion. Formerly it was assumed the conditions we now look on as capable of correction were inevitable. There was then no such thing as preventive measures in relation to school children. We hope and believe that day in past, and that parents will give their prompt and cordial co-operation to the work of the medical inspectors and nurses; otherwise the best results cannot be obtained. It should be ever borne in mind that the effort is entirely in the interest of the child and the relief of some small defect may prevent serious chronic trouble which may impair the health of the child and its usefulness throughout life.

During the session just closed a four-room annex was added to Atlantic City No. 1 school; an eight-room annex to Atlantic City No. 2 school; and a four-room annex to Brambleton No. 1 school—all for the white grammar school children. These additions, with the use of the entire Omohundro Avenue building for next session, will take care very comfortably of all the white pupils.

At the opening of the schools last September the Princess Anne Avenue school, of nine rooms, and seating capacity of 450, was turned over to the colored children and every seat was promptly occupied. Additional facilities for colored children are needed, and it is hoped that the Councils will, a little later on, find it practicable to make the appropriation requested by the School Board for that purpose. Especially is this true as to Berkeley, as the conditions there are very acute.

Splendid High School.
But the matter which brought most happiness to the School Board and the

people of Norfolk generally was the completion and occupation of the Matthew Fontaine Maury High School on February 29 last. There had been long and tedious delays, first on the selection of a suitable lot for its location. The School Board finally decided to recommend the purchase of a lot beautifully located on Granby Street, between Fifteenth and Seventeenth Streets and Williams Avenue, and convenient to all the car lines. The recommendation of the board remained before the Councils for more than a year, and was finally defeated, largely through the efforts and influence of some members of the School Board who opposed it in the board and fought it in the Councils. This I regard as most unfortunate. Efforts were then made to build two small high schools, one in Eastern and one in the Western sections of the city.

This was rigorously opposed by the superintendent, and some members of the board, who stood for one strong, central, well-equipped building. The contest was sharp, and at times bitter, both in the School Board and in

without the most active and persistent efforts of the school authorities. The building, however, has been completed within the appropriation and occupied. In appearance, thorough construction, equipment, arrangement, furnishing, heating, lighting and ventilation, I do not think it is surpassed by any building in the country of approximately the same cost. The thanks of the city are due to the high school committee for their patient and untiring work.

Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, who made the address at our high school commencement and who is familiar with high schools in this country and Europe, after carefully inspecting the building in all details, remarked, "It was a real pleasure to see your magnificent high school. It was an inspiration to me and an honor not only to Norfolk, but the State of Virginia. It is impossible to estimate the value of this building in the educational uplift of the community by the splendid advantages it offers to the youth of the city."

Manual Training.
Some five years ago when it was proposed to introduce manual training in our schools, very decided opposition developed from some members of the School Board, and quite a number of our citizens who objected "because they did not wish their children to be trained to menial mechanics" and denounced it as a "fad and fiddle." It was introduced, however, in 1905, with two teachers, and the wisdom of the School Board is shown in the fact that the work has been so satisfactory and became so popular that it is found necessary to employ ten teachers, seven white and three colored, in that department. It was never contemplated to train pupils to be mechanics, but rather to train their hands as well as their heads, in order that they may be well rounded men and women.

The Councils. Finally the School Board decided in favor of one large school, and recommended the purchase of the lot on Moran and DeBree Avenues, Fifteenth to Seventeenth Streets, containing about four acres, or fifty buildings lots, and the necessary funds were appropriated by the Councils for its purchase, also \$275,000 to build, furnish, and equip a fire-proof building, with a seating capacity for one thousand pupils. This latter appropriation, however, was not secured

herald the discovery of this model maid as though there had been unearthed from the ruins of Pompeii some priceless relic.

It is high time that there be some equal honor paid to the model mistress who has been discovered in Chicago. Mrs. Andrew Allen's housemaid was married in Mrs. Allen's drawing room, and the fashionable section of Chicago, in which Mrs. Allen resides, was startled. Mrs. Allen reassured her conventional neighbors by no denials nor even explanations. She simply stated several facts and announced

that she would continue to give housemaid weddings in her drawing room, provided the housemaids deserved such recognition of their services.

"This isn't the first wedding of this sort that I have had from my house," cheerily announced Mrs. Allen. "The housemaid whom Anna succeeded was married here. She had been with me six years. I don't consider that I am doing these servants any revolutionary favor by throwing my house open to them on the occasion of so much importance in their lives. I really owe it to them in return for their willing service."

Anna Anderson, who was married from her mistress's home, had been in her service three years. When it became apparent to Mrs. Allen that the good-looking, awkward young motorman was making frequent calls on Anna, Mrs. Allen took the same course she would have for a daughter. She investigated the young man's record and ascertained his circumstances. She found that his character was good, that he had money in the bank and that on his wages as a motorman he could support Anna and himself comfortably in a sunny little flat, where they could afford a few blooming plants on the window ledge and a canary singing just inside the window. Having ascertained this, and being one of the old-fashioned order of women who believe in matrimony for all, she told Anna she might receive her young man on Wednesday and Friday evenings when Mr. Allen was away at his clubs in the library. For nine months it was understood that on those evenings the library belonged to Anna and her young man from 5 to 10, and the children had to read their Mother Goose melodies and the young girls their novels in their own rooms or in the living room.

True to her tenets that if the servant does faithful, competent work for the mistress it is the mistress's duty to guard the interests and consider the future of the servant, Mrs. Allen was actively interested in Anna's wedding. Therefore Anna was married in "the grandest room she had ever seen," the Allen drawing room. Fifty of her friends were present. Mrs. Allen, who had given the bride her wedding

gown, was present. Two servants in the household were bridesmaids.

A quartette of friends of the bridegroom sang Swedish ballads and an accompaniment was played by one of the Allen family on the Allen piano. When Anna departed for the little flat where the blooming plants and the canary were awaiting her mistress kissed her.

We may choose to say that Mrs. Allen only did her duty. Then how many mistresses do their duties by the maids who serve them. A New York woman complains incessantly that she cannot keep a maid-of-all-work. When she was encouraged to tell in detail of her troubles with her servants, it was found that she was unwilling to let them marry a key and was unwilling to open the door for them after 9 o'clock, which is only a little after sunset by New York reckoning. Since the mistress dined at 7 and remained at the table for an hour longer, the "evening a week out" of the girls who had to be back at 9 o'clock became a grim joke to all in the household except the mistress herself.

"If I hurry I can walk once around the block on my evening out," sarcastically explained one black-frocked maid, who had rung the bell five minutes after 9. The mistress scolded and the maid left, as twenty-two others had done within a year.

This mistress claimed to be "liberal" with her servants and she was, with money. Wages were good and tips were large, but she called a servant to her in a tone several shades less kindly than in which she called her dog.

The most popular mistress is one who does not pay the highest wages, and who is not lavish of tips. Of each she gives as liberally as she can afford, but no more. But her servants never leave her unless by death or dismissal. The reason is, perhaps, apparent in her answer to a friend who said:

"I am afraid," she replied, with gentle sarcasm, "I shall always be conscious of the human being."

I heard this woman's maid gossiping one day with the maid next door. The other maid was dissatisfied. The first was sympathetic.

"You ought to work for my mistress," she said. "When she asks me to do anything, she does it in the same way she would ask a friend."

FREDERICK'S HALL
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Frederick's Hall, Va., November 4.—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Kennedy have returned to their home in Oil City, Pa., after visiting Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Walke at Trice Hotel.

Mrs. Messenger, of New York, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. T. C. Garrett.

Mrs. Lucy Hope is at the home of Major A. J. Richardson for the winter months.

Mrs. L. A. Viers is visiting her sister, Mrs. Ben Showalter, in Richmond.

Mrs. E. C. Hillyer and Mrs. A. G. Trice are spending some time in Raleigh, N. C.

Frederick Hood spent Sunday with relatives in Warwick county.

Children visited Charlotteville this week.

Miss Sadie Trice has returned home after a visit to relatives in Hampton and Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Moore have returned to Philadelphia.

Miss Bettie Garrett, of Buckner, is the guest of Mrs. E. T. Terrell.

Mrs. Rosa Harris is spending some time with relatives in Palmyra.

Miss Bettie Richardson is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Richardson in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. C. Pettit are among those who attended the Moore-Dickenson nuptials at Louisville last week.

C. H. Shivers and son, of Atlantic City, N. J., are spending several days here this week.

J. F. Bickers and C. Danne, Jr., of Louisiana, were visitors here last week.

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Regent Street, London, England
Will Exhibit at Our Galleries
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A Magnificent Collection Of
Old English Sporting Prints
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Galleries will be open in evening from 8.15 to 10
Private audience can be arranged by appointment
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Mistress and Maid
By Ada Patterson
When a good maid of long tenure of office is discovered a hubbub is made about it, and there is serious discussion of encouraging the institution by offering some sort of public reward. Why not offer a reward to the good mistress? Maids say there are no good mistresses, and mistresses declare that there are no good maids, and the war goes on.
The Domestic Science Guild, of New York, rewards a maid who has lived with and performed faithful and competent service for a family by giving her a medal, and in conjunction with the family arranging for the payment of a lump sum. And the newspapers

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